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## Still smiling

A competitor takes in a practice round ahead of the Gull River Open Canoe Slalom Race at the Minden Whitewater Preserve on Sept. 9. See more photos on page 13. /ADAM FRISK Special to the Times

# AH goes electric with traffic speed signs

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**  
*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

Algonquin Highlands will benefit by having its own two solar-powered traffic signs. Council decided Sept. 7 to write a cheque for \$9,800 plus applicable tax and delivery costs to get those signs.

The municipality collaborated with Haliburton County to have an electronic speed data collection sign placed on North Shore Road in June. The information collected was very informative and will assist with future projects by providing traffic speed, traffic counts in both directions, and average speed percentages.

Adam Thorn, the township's public works

director, said the information gleaned in June sparked an interest in the Department of Public Works to see what else could be done.

The results of this speed calming project were brought to council in August and staff was asked to investigate the cost of an electronic speed sign.

The county bought three of those signs since 2018 and upper tier staff are pleased

with their durability, user-friendly functions, and data collection capabilities.

"They're actually pretty feasible, inexpensive for us to possibly purchase," Thorn said.

Staff reached out to Signalisation Kalitec Inc. and received an estimate of \$4,900 plus applicable tax and shipping. Thorn said the company is honoring the same price offered

see COST page 2

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### Back in business

Faisal Rasool, the owner of Stedmans in Minden, stands proudly in front of the store after they opened their doors on Tuesday, Sept. 5. The building had been closed for many months to accommodate the renovations that it needed, and now that the interior is nearly complete, Rasool intends to tackle the exterior as well, to make the downtown look a little brighter. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff



## AH awards contract for 5-year strategic plan

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Algonquin Highlands could have its strategic plan in hand by Christmas.

Angie Bird, the municipality's CAO, urged township council Sept. 7 to award a contract to write the township's five-year strategic plan to Capital Park Consulting. They offered to do the work for \$20,844 plus taxes.

The plan will set the municipality's goals and objectives for the next five years.

During the 2023 budget deliberations, council set aside \$25,000 to carry out a strategic planning process for the next five years.

Angie Bird, the municipality's CAO, said staff have been working with Haliburton County's procurement coordinator and the municipalities of Highlands East and Minden Hills to ink a joint request for proposals for three individual corporate strategic plans.

The RFP was released July 14 and advertised on Biddingo. The township also advertised the RFP on social media and its website, which directed proponents to the Biddingo site.

Bids closed on Aug. 10.

Three proposals were received that met the required criteria.

Evaluations were conducted for Algonquin

Highlands on Aug. 29 by the procurement coordinator, the CAO, and the clerk based on the evaluation criteria contained in the RFP document.

The project is scheduled to begin in September with a final document being presented to council in December 2023.

"It's nice to see that we did do a combined project with other municipalities," Mayor Liz Danielsen said. "It's unfortunate to see that one municipality is going with a different contractor." Dysart wasn't represented in the collaborative procurement effort.

She said scheduling for work on the plan should be such that all of council can participate.

Councillor Lisa Barry is expected to be absent from the October council meeting.

"We will make sure that's accommodated," Bird said.

"I'm expecting that will include members of council and department heads," Danielsen said.

"It does, yes," Bird said.

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## Cost not an issue for new signs

from page 1

to the county in 2022.

The signs the township is looking to buy are the same ones as those used by the county.

"Therefore, we can either share or borrow and we can complete more roads if time allows," Thorn said. "It will also allow us to do our annual traffic counts on our roads."

Buying two signs would allow staff to conduct traffic calming measures while collecting vital information for future projects and planning. It will also allow staff to leave one sign in a location where traffic calming measures are needed for a longer period of time while the second sign can be moved around more frequently to other locations as needed.

The electronic signs could also be placed outside a work zone on either side to remind road users of the road speed before entering the construction zone.

"I like the idea of us actually having our own," Mayor Liz Danielsen said. "It gives (staff) a lot more flexibility. You won't have to wait for timing as far as the county is concerned."

Councillor Lisa Barry asked if council should defer the expenditure.

"We do have a budget to potentially purchase these within the working budget," Thorn said.

Money had been earmarked for annual traffic counting. And that money hasn't been

used yet, he said.

"Between that and a couple other projects within the budget line that have come under budget, staff feel that there will be the necessary funds to cover the purchase of two of these signs," Thorn said.

The 2023 budget for signs and guiderails was pegged at \$50,000 for reflectivity testing, sign replacement, a speed limit analysis, traffic counts, and miscellaneous repairs.

The traffic count project was estimated at \$8,600 as the project would have had to be contracted out because the township does not have the equipment necessary in house.

The two electronic signs will cost the municipality \$9,800 plus applicable tax and delivery costs.

Barry wondered if the township would continue to use the county's equipment.

Danielsen said that, as the county has the only signs, there's a "considerable wait time" to get access to them.

"We only have access and availability for a very specific period of time and I would say that this would make things a lot easier," Danielsen said.

Thorn said Algonquin Highlands has utilized the county in the past for traffic analysis, but the county is limited as well.

"When they're doing their traffic counting on their roads, we obviously don't have the opportunity to utilize their equipment," Thorn said.



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# Just what the doctor ordered: a glimpse inside the KDHC

by EMILY STONEHOUSE  
Editor

Let's not sugar coat things here: there's been some bad news from the medical world these days. Major provincial budget cuts, closures, and a complete uncertainty about the future of healthcare in Ontario.

So when a good news story comes along from this industry, maybe it's just what the doctor ordered.

Located in the heart of Kinmount, just 15 minutes away from Minden, the Kinmount and District Health Centre (KDHC) has had their doors open for the past 25 years to patients from across the region.

Up until recently, the facility had two physicians, but Dr. Elena Mihi, who started her family medicine practice in Kinmount in 1999, retired on Aug. 31. Her patients have been transferred to the newer physician, Dr. Lesslie Ponraja, who encourages patients to call him "Dr. Lesslie." Currently, there are 1700 patients rostered at the KDHC, including many from Minden and Haliburton County overall.

Dr. Lesslie hails from Ashford, England, and joined the practice in Kinmount in March, 2023. After practicing medicine for 20 years – 15 as a family doctor and five in a hospital – he brings a wealth of knowledge and unwavering care to the KDHC.

Yet, while Dr. Lesslie has jumped in with two feet to the facility, the Foundation is still on the lookout to build their physician roster. "We are always open to new people doing a placement here," shared Yvette Brauer, one of the Foundation members for the KDHC, "and we are designed to accommodate up to three doctors."

The Foundation does the vast majority of all fundraising for the organization, with two large events each year: The Christmas Appeal and the Journey for Health in the summer season. Comprised of 11 members, the Foundation is also heavily involved in the day-to-day of the operations at KDHC, including maintaining the building, tending to the gardens, ordering equipment for the practices, and recruiting physicians. "We are aware that there is a huge need for doctors in the community," said Kim Restivo Galea, a member of



Yvette Brauer and Kim Restivo Galea stand in front of the Kinmount District Health Centre sign before the tour of the facility. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

the KDHC Foundation, "so our goal is to fill that spot. We've done this process before [of recruitment], so we know we can do it again."

While the facility is a medical centre, the Foundation goes beyond recruiting physicians and nurses. They are also eagerly building a roster of professionals to create a holistic wellness facility for the community. This includes access to an in-house physiotherapist, professional foot care, a dental hygienist, and a Life Labs for blood work exclusively for KDHC patients.

The building also houses a full pharmacy downstairs, which is owned and operated by Samuel Iskandar. Open six days a week, the pharmacy offers prescriptions, vaccinations, and day-to-day basics needed for home healthcare. Iskandar

noted that recently, pharmacists have been given the green light to offer their own prescriptions for ailments such as cold sores, allergies, or UTI's. He shared that while there are a series of caveats to these in-house prescriptions, it could help patients and physicians with wait times and prescription management moving forward.

While the world of medicine is uncertain, and the needs for the community continue to climb, setting foot in the KDHC is a breath of fresh air. Where so often the human component of medical attention has been replaced with clinical monitors and machines, the KDHC offers a space that is warm, friendly, and inviting; offering hope and support to all those navigating their unique medical journeys.

It's just what the doctor ordered.

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## VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipality Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

**September 14 – Regular Council Meeting**  
**September 28- Regular Council Meeting**  
**October 12- Regular Council Meeting**

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or a live-stream link available on the Township CivicWeb Portal at [mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx](http://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx) or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting; please download by visiting our CivicWeb Portal at [mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx](http://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx). Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

## OFFICE CLOSURE

Administration Offices and services will be CLOSED on Monday October 2, 2023, for National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, as well as Monday October 9, 2023 for Thanksgiving.

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**September 28th, 2023, is "Test you smoke alarm Day."**

For more information contact the Minden Hills Fire Department



## WASTE FACILITIES

### Waste Recycling Tip:

When grocery shopping, place produce such as green peppers and bananas loose into your cart rather than using disposable plastic produce bags. If you prefer to bag your produce, try reusable produce bags – now available to purchase at most grocery stores!

## CULTURAL CENTRE EVENTS

Shifting Lens, a group exhibit featuring 15 artists from the Eastern Hub of the Ontario Society of Artists, will be on display September 7 – November 25, 2023, in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Admission is by donation. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca)

The Minden Hills Museum & Heritage Village and Nature's Place is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm until Saturday, October 7. This week features hands-on activities taking place every day from 3-4 pm including butter in a jar, build a beaver and paper plate birds. The Heritage Village is also open for self-guided tours. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca)



# Menacing coywolf can't be touched in a protected area

by JAMES MATTHEWS  
*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

It's believed by some people that coy-wolves are a canid hybrid descended from western coyotes and eastern wolves, while others believe they're simply coyotes. But it is doesn't really matter much when one of them kills the family dog. Mayor Liz Danielsen said during the Sept. 7 council meeting that she's spent a lot of time looking into the report of a menacing coywolf in the Oxtongue Lake area. Resident Marlene Kyle wrote township council on Aug. 22 and described how members of the Oxtongue Lake community had several encounters with a suspected coy-

wolf over the month previous to the letter. "This (coywolf) has been visible on all of the local roads, on many on the resorts, and on private property during both day and evening hours," Kyle wrote. "It appears that this (coywolf) is not frightened of humans. It is getting bolder and the encounters are becoming more threatening." Residents Jan and Chris Woods and Sarah and Gordon Woods emailed afterwards and asked that their names be added to Kyle's letter to council. In her letter, Kyle said there have been many close encounters, but the most dangerous thus far was when a dog was killed by the coywolf. "The dog was on a leash on the owner's front porch around 8 a.m. and the (coywolf)

grabbed and killed it," Kyle wrote. "While we understand that we live in an area with an abundance of wildlife, the community is on edge and fearful of future encounters. Resort owners are worried about their guests. Parents are worried about their young children and pet owners are worried about their pets." Danielsen said she's reached out to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and other agencies. "Unfortunately, or fortunately for the wolf, Oxtongue Lake is in a protected area and they're not allowed to be shot unless they're absolutely threatening life or property," she said. Other than providing some measure of assistance to people, the coywolf is not the responsibility of the municipality, she said. "I've made absolutely sure that they've been given all the information that's available to them," the mayor said. "I think that's

“While we understand that we live in an area with an abundance of wildlife, the community is on edge and fearful of future encounters.”  
— MARLENE KYLE, ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS RESIDENT”

as far as we can go, respecting the concerns that they've got and understanding somebody's angst when their dog has been killed by a coywolf.”



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**Just keep blooming**  
Minden council has agreed to let the Minden Horticultural Society to assist in maintaining the flower baskets that line Bobcaygeon Road until the cold front prevents the flowers from growing. Previously, the municipality let the baskets die once the summer students left, but the Horticultural Society connected with business owners and council members to encourage the longevity of the baskets, in an attempt to brighten up the downtown core. "We want to keep Minden in bloom for as long as we can," said Connie Walker, the Horticultural Society president. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff



# Haliburton County wakeboarder places at Worlds

by VIVIAN COLLINGS  
Times Staff

Harmony Meirik's hard work riding waves on Maple Lake for the past 10 years has paid off.

The Trent University student now has two new medals to boast after competing with the top wakeboard talent around the world, proving that practice makes perfect.

In August, Meirik competed in Wake Canada Wakeboard Nationals in Vancouver and won gold in her category.

The young wakeboarder then traveled to Portugal a couple of weeks later for the WWA Nautique Wakeboard World Championship and came home with bronze in her category.

Meirik said thanks to plenty of practice shredding behind her family boat all summer, she was prepared to compete against the top talent in the country on the west coast, but not without feeling a few nerves.

"I was really nervous because I didn't know who was going to be in my category because I knew it would be a big category," Meirik said. "I still went, and all three of my runs there were perfect where I landed tricks that I have never landed before, so it went really well, and then I won my age division."

She explained that after placing in the junior girls division, she was able to compete in the pro category at the same competition.

"I came second in that category behind a girl that used to be fifth in the world, she's really good," she said. "Before that, I wasn't thinking about Worlds because it was in



Harmony Meirik has been practicing wakeboarding all summer on Maple Lake to get ready for the National and World wakeboarding competitions. /Submitted



Harmony Meirik holds up her board after placing first at Wakeboard Nationals in Vancouver.

Portugal and there would be over 200 competitors from around the world, but since I did so well at Nationals, I decided to go."

Meirik had competed at Nationals a few times before and Worlds once.

"It was really scary, I had only [competed in Worlds] in Toronto once when I was 10. I was really nervous, and I had a really bad run on practice day which made me even more nervous. The second day was much better, and I got third place in my age category. I had a comeback," she laughed.

Meirik arrived home from Portugal last week, which was also her first time travel-

ing across the Atlantic.

"Oh my gosh, it was so fun because I had never been to Europe before. I didn't really know what to expect, but it was so cool. There's a pretty big wakeboard scene out there, and we were on Lago Azul which was so pretty. There were tons of boats on the water, and I had never really experienced something like that before," she said.

Meirik's family has had a cottage on Maple Lake since 2012, which was where she first held on to a rope behind a boat with her feet strapped to a board.

"Most of the other summers I've just been

practicing when I can, but this summer I decided to really practice hard which I think really helped me in competitions this year," Meirik said.

She is planning to keep working hard and returning to Nationals and potentially Worlds again next year.

In the meantime, Meirik is focusing on school until next summer, when she plans to also teach wakeboarding lessons in Haliburton County.

She can be reached at harmonywakeboards@gmail.com for lesson inquiries.



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## A BIA in my bonnet

**I**F WE'VE ever had a conversation in real life, you've probably heard this rant before. Minden needs a BIA. Full stop. That's the story.

And I want it to be known that I say this with love, and I can assure you that I will forever fly my Minden flag proudly, but there are some definite areas of improvement around the community that would be quick and easy fixes were there a BIA in place.

We are quick to harp on the township. Yes the roads are cracked and yes some buildings seem to be crumbling and no, no one likes looking at the Beaver Theatre. But the township can't do it all.

Local government isn't held to that expectation in any community. Even our neighbours to the east, the great and mighty Dysart et al, have a BIA in place; community members who dedicate time, effort, and yes, a little bit of money, to make their corner of the world a little bit brighter.

Minden is an anomaly by opting out of the BIA route, but still projecting the same expectations onto the image of their community.

I have heard rumours that at one point, a business association was in place. Not a full-fledged business improvement area, but an informal gathering of individuals and businesses who cared about the community, and wanted to see some change for the better.

It seems to have tapered out gradually, with different business owners offering me different stances on the who, the how, the why.

But since then, nothing has been set in stone.

So this week, I got a call from the Minden Horticultural Society, who recently went to council to request support with the hanging baskets

after Labour Day. Traditionally, the baskets, which I will say draw an abundance of compliments and exclamations of awe from locals and visitors alike, are left to die once the summer students go back to school.

Then the downtown core is stripped naked of any colour, expression, or decoration until the May Long Weekend the following year. Sometimes the township doesn't even have capacity to hang Christmas lights, making those gray days feel that much grayer.

This year, the Horticultural Society asked to keep our downtown core brighter, longer. They offered their own volunteer time and energy, and went around to local businesses

to see if they would help as well with the watering. Some council members even agreed to support the group along the way; all in an attempt to maintain the colourful essence of our community.

And this is a feel good story; businesses, organizations, and

community members coming together over a common cause.

But it shouldn't be an anomaly. This should be the norm. Maybe it starts with flowers, but then grows into holiday decorations, community events, fundraisers. We are quick to say what the township doesn't do, but what about what we can do?

Because the essence of a BIA - beyond the obvious desires to improve the area, encourage foot traffic, allow businesses to succeed, and beautify the area - is to work together as a community, a team, a family. One common goal in mind: to put Minden on the map, for all the right reasons.

So when someone asks, to BIA or to not BIA, in my mind, there is no question.

**EMILY STONEHOUSE**  
Editor

## Kwarky

*"For the ticket and a tip."*

## Paying the price

**M**ANY THINGS have been done to promote the conservation of waterfowl, but I think this latest effort might be the one that will work the best. I am talking, of course, about the ammunition manufacturer's initiative to save ducks by raising ammunition prices.

For instance, the other day I saw a box of waterfowl ammunition at a big box store. And it was selling for about \$50 for 10 shells, before taxes. That means every time you shoot one of those shells at a duck, it costs you \$6.50. So, every time you empty an auto-loading or pump shotgun at passing birds, you've spent \$19.50.

Naturally, this is going to change duck hunting.

The first thing I predict is you will start to see a lot more accountants and financial advisers invited into duck blinds this season. Their job will be to prevent hunters from entering financial ruin.

I imagine it will go something like:

Hunter: We've got two mallards coming into the decoys, what do I do?

Financial Adviser: Based on an analysis of your earlier shooting, you've got a one in three chance of hitting the near mallard and a one in 26 chance of dropping the far one. Hang on while I crunch the numbers....

Hunter: Never mind, they're gone.

Financial Adviser: It's OK, it turns out that not shooting at those, or any ducks really, was the fiscally responsible thing to do. Shotgun shell futures are looking up! You could sell those shells for \$7.25 apiece today on the open market ...

No matter how you slice it, this kind of

sober second thought will probably benefit the ducks and the duck hunter. Oh sure, a cost assessment of any given hunt might not be the kind of thing we duck hunters are used to, but it might at least help in prioritizing which ducks we target.

I mean, in this economy, are you really going to spend \$19.50 shooting three shots at a passing group of tiny green-winged teal hens? Especially when there is only a 60 per cent chance of connecting with one and you are financially risk averse.

I can just see hunters meeting at the landing after a good northern flight has come in.

"Well, how did you do?"  
One might ask the other.

"I limited out," the hunter might say. "But financially it was a disaster. Want to buy a boat?"

The good news is that these high prices might not affect other kinds of hunting, in which hunters tend not to shoot a lot. For instance, while arrow prices have also gone

up, in most cases you can recover them so if you care for them, the bowhunters out there will eventually recoup their costs.

Turkey hunting ammunition is also expensive, but the truth of the matter is a good turkey hunter will only shoot two shells each spring and maybe one in the autumn, and turkeys are bigger, so it all pans out in terms of cost effectiveness.

Big game hunting with a rifle is still one of the great bargains too. Again, the cartridges have gone up in price, but typically a deer hunter with any sort of skill and a measure of visual acuity will one take one shot.

It's the only hunting sport where you still get a bang for your buck.

**STEVE GALEA**  
Beyond 35



## IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

# Harvest time and hungry kids

**A**ND SO we enter the time of plenty. Crops ripen in fields. Apple trees hang heavy with fruit. Autumn is the time of plenty of food. The time of harvest and satisfaction knowing we have the food we need for lean months ahead. Yet as we enter the time of plenty the number of children returning to school with hungry stomachs continues to increase.

Statistics Canada reports that in 2022 almost 1.8 million Canadian children lived in households that could not afford the food needed for healthy living. Almost 11 per cent of households in the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Pine Ridge region were food insecure in 2022, the region's district health board reported earlier this year.



**JIM POLING SR.**

*From Shaman's Rock*

Food banks say that visits to their facilities have increased by as much as 20 to 30 per cent in the last year. Feed Ontario, a collective of hunger relief organizations, says that roughly one-third of all visitors to Ontario food banks are under 18 years of age.

Feed Ontario also says that Ontario food banks were visited more than 4.3 million times during the 2021-22 year, an increase of 42 per cent over the previous three years. The number of visits in the first nine months of last year increased 24 per cent.

Also, the number of first-time visitors increased 64 per cent since 2019.

Child hunger is not just about a kid not having enough to eat now and then. It is a problem that affects our entire society for years into the future.

Hungry children can't focus properly on classroom lessons or on learning life skills. When they don't absorb lessons they have trouble later getting a job needed to support themselves and any family they might have in the future.

The result often is even more families with not enough food for healthy living. It is a cycle of more hungry children unable to escape the cycle of poverty and resulting food insecurity.

Hungry families and hungry children lead to numerous social problems, including crime.

Research shows a correlation between food insecurity and violent crime. One U.S. university study concluded that for every one per cent rise in food insecurity, violent crime rates increased by 12 per cent.

In the words of Pearl Buck, author of the internationally acclaimed novel *The Good Earth*:

"A hungry man can't see right or wrong. He just sees food."

Hungry people are not only perpetrators of crime, they sometimes are victims. Statistics Canada has reported that more than one in seven Canadian adults who were victims of crime from 2016 to 2018 lacked consistent access to enough food to live an active, healthy life.

There is no shortage of individuals or organizations trying to alleviate hunger among children and their families. Food Banks Canada says it supports a network of 4,750 hunger relief organizations across Canada.

There are many other hunger relief groups such as the St. Vincent de Paul Society collecting and distributing food for those in need.

All the good work being done to feed the hungry is not enough. It fills some bellies temporarily but does little to eliminate the causes of food insecurity.

Many experts say that the way to attack poverty and hunger is to work at limiting the inequalities we have in income, wealth, gender and race. Unimaginable fortunes are being made by the world's super rich while common working people face deteriorating benefits.

Simply put, the gap between the rich and the rest of us continues to widen, assisted by poor governance and corruption.

Oxfam International, a global movement fighting poverty, says common people must work together to challenge the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of a few.

"We can demand an end to patriarchy, white supremacy and neoliberalism," it says. "We can change the rules on tax to make sure the richest pay their fair share. We can demand more spending on public health and education. We can demand fair wages for everyone."

Whatever.

All I know is that it is a total outrage that we still have children going to school hungry and relying on school breakfasts and lunches to provide their basic nutrition needs.



## Snap, crackle, and pop

A sudden heat wave caused some spectacular lighting across the region this past week. Pictured, a lightning bolt shoots across the sky at Panorama Park in Minden. /CODY EVANS Special to the Times

# Haliburton County privatization bus to Queen's Park

Our bus is over half full. We need your help to fill the bus for the Rally on Monday, Sept. 25 at noon to represent Haliburton County and greet the Legislature on opening day.

If we don't stand together to protect our public health care and say no to privatization now, we are going to lose our public health care. Together we can make a difference!

Some generous donations will reduce the \$55 per person cost based on being full. We have complimentary seats to assist in everyone being able to attend this momentous day. You must reserve your seat by Tuesday Sept. 19 with a \$20 deposit. Please contact Bonnie Roe at 705-457-6579 or email hhlct-coalition@gmail.com.

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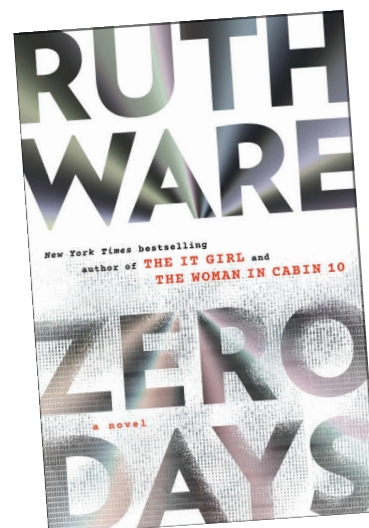
with a washroom. We will provide morning snacks. Please bring a lunch and drinks. Bring a collapsible chair if you need it and a sign.

New stops/times added:

- Minden Community Centre, board at 7:30 a.m./departure 7:40 a.m. (NEW TIME!)
- Fenelon Falls, board at 8:20 a.m. (140 Lindsay St., near Home Hardware)
- Lindsay Mall Main Entrance, board at 8:45 a.m.
- Arrival Queen's Park, approximately 11 a.m.
- Return bus from Queen's park, board at 1:45 p.m., departure 2 p.m.
- 5 p.m. arrival in Minden

*Submitted*

## HCPL's Book of the Week



Hired by companies to break into buildings and hack security systems, Jack and her husband, Gabe, are the best penetration specialists in the business. But after a routine assignment goes horribly wrong, Jack arrives home to find her husband dead. To add to her horror, the police are closing in on their suspect—her.

Suddenly on the run and quickly running out of options, Jack must decide who she can trust as she circles closer to the real killer in this unput-downable and heart-pounding mystery.

*Zero Days* by Ruth Ware is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.





# Huskies split opening weekend, announce new additions

by **ALEX GALLACHER**  
*Special to the Times*

It is the time that Haliburton County hockey fans have been waiting for; the return of hockey season!

With a new look Huskies roster taking on the OJHL this season, fans eagerly awaited the opening weekend double header. One of the biggest changes with behind the bench, while Ryan Ramsay returned for his third season as head coach and general managers, his assistant coaches saw a massive shake up. Gone are Brian Mackenzie and Jordan Bailey, and in are Matt Comand and Owen

Flood.

Flood is no stranger to the Huskies team, serving as the team's athletic trainer since the inaugural season in 2021. While Comand joins the Huskies from the OJHL championship winning Collingwood Blues, where he also served as head of player development.

## Fighting the Fish

The first game of the 2023 campaign saw the Huskies take on their Highway 35 rivals down in Lindsay. On a Friday night at the Lindsay Recreation Complex, the Huskies found themselves in a sticky situation.

## Brandon Nye would make it 3-0 Muskies

before the period was up, and heading into the third the Huskies were at the bottom of Mount Everest with a lot to do. After Jack Staniland was sent to the box for interference, Cole Patey would tally his first of the season to send the Huskies into a 4-0 hole at 9:32.

It wasn't all doom and gloom for the Huskies, as a late goal from Declan Bowmaster launched what seemed to be an improbable comeback. The Huskies pelted Lindsay goalie Ethan Fraser with everything they had, and with seconds left Staniland cut the lead in half with his first of the season.

In the end, Lindsay claimed game one in the battle of Highway 35, 4-2. Huskies goalie Vlad Visan went 18 for 22, while Fraser stopped 38 of 40.

Panthers answered back two minutes later as a tip in from Kieran Litterick beat Kennedy to restore the lead.

Before the period was up, Cameron Dial took a roughing call which put the Huskies on the powerplay for third time. This time, the Huskies made Pickering pay. Lucas Stevenson buried a wicked shot past Aiden Feddema to tied it up heading into the third.

The Huskies needed a push if they wanted to send the hometown fans home happy, and the Captain answered their calls.

Saini found the back of the twine for the second time at 7:43, giving the Huskies their first lead and notching Saini's third point of the game.

With less than two minutes to go, the Panthers came out and hit the Huskies hard. They applied the pressure and in the dying minutes, it would be former Husky Nick Athanasakos tipping another one in at 18:53 and sending this game to OT.

Last season, OT games were something the Huskies improved on from their inaugural season. At 2:23 Johnathon Mead sent the Nesbitt into a frenzy as he buried the game winner to give the Huskies the 4-3 OT win against the Panthers.

The Huskies are back at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena this Saturday, Sept. 16 when they take on Former Assistant Coach Bailey and the Toronto JRC, before heading on the road to the Herb Carnegie Community Centre to face the North York Rangers to end the weekend double header.

## Punch out with the Panthers

Despite the minor setback on Friday, the Huskies came into Saturday's home opener against the Pickering Panthers with a clear mindset and one goal: Win.

Head coach Ramsay opted to stay rookie goalie Logan Kennedy against the 2021-22 OJHL Champs, in place of Friday's starter Visan. A packed house roared with applause as after nearly six months, Huskies hockey returned to the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

Finding themselves trailing 1-0 after period one, the Huskies got to work in the second. Brand new team Captain Patrick Saini would find the back of the net to tie the game at one a piece, bringing the Nesbitt to its feet for the first time this season. The



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# County moves closer to an accommodation tax

by JAMES MATTHEWS

*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

Haliburton County staff have identified a path toward establishing its municipal services corporation.

Such an entity is required for the adoption of a municipal accommodation tax in the county and its lower tier municipalities.

But Scott Ovell, the county's economic development and tourism director, told council Aug. 16 that staff are pretty much learning as they go in the process.

Ovell's report to council about next steps was accepted as information by council.

"I expected there might be more questions at this point," said Warden Liz Danielsen, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands.

One component of establishing a municipal accommodation tax for the county and the lower tier municipalities is the establishment of a municipal services corporation. Ovell said such an entity is new territory for him and staff, and that was the reason for the update to council.

"I look at that process as an evolution," Ovell said. "As we gain more information and probably legal guidance, we'll probably be back in front of you again, just to keep you updated."

Department staff outlined to county council in July the municipal accommodation tax (MAT) legislation and some key questions each municipality would need to consider if they were to implement it.

Staff received direction to begin drafting a bylaw for the lower tier municipalities' consideration, and for staff to begin the process of creating a municipal services corporation (MSC).

Because the county is a for-profit corporation, the MSC would be designated as the only tourism entity to receive the eligible 50 per cent of MAT revenue that the lower tier municipalities are mandated, by provincial legislation, to contribute for tourism marketing and development.

Of course, everything about the tax and the corporation is contingent upon support from the lower tier townships.

Although many destination marketing and management organizations (DMO) are not-for-profit or, in some cases, funded by a municipality, Haliburton County operates differently, Ovell wrote in his report.

"The county's tourism division has acted as the region's DMO and has been solely responsible for destination marketing and, most recently, destination management and tourism development for over a decade," he said.

A DMO promotes a destination as an attractive place to visit while enhancing the destination's public image as a dynamic place to live, work, study, and invest.

Its primary goal is to enhance the visitor experience and drive economic growth through tourism.

A municipal services corporation's shares are owned by a municipality or a municipality and one or more other public sector entities. Such corporations are connected to the municipality, but are at arms-length as they have autonomy over their operations.

Much of the work to be done to create an MSC is dependent on the implementation of the accommodation tax by the lower tier municipalities and the acceptance of the proposed governance model pending legal review.

Phase 1 of establishing a service corporation begins with a proposed governance model reviewed by lawyers this month.

The second phase will include the adoption of the accommodation tax bylaw and proposed governance model by the lower tier municipalities.

In October and November, a business case is to be created for a municipal services corporation and a service payment agreement will be established between the county and the local municipalities.

The business case will be presented to county council in December.

Phases 3 and 4 will be undertaken in 2024.

Council has previously been told that as much as \$245,500 could be generated by the MAT at the county if the program were implemented. Further, the funding from MAT would cover the payroll costs of tourism staff that would support its mandate and objectives.

Danielsen said everything come to fruition as soon as possible.

"It seems like there's a lot of enthusiasm for us moving forward with this process," said Danielsen.



## Trail tales

Haliburton Forest hosted the 30th annual Trail Race from Sept. 9 to 11, where 600 runners registered, making it the biggest year yet. The event is nicknamed the "Haliburton Forest Family Reunion," with all the familiar faces who have been participating for years. /Photo by David Sweeney

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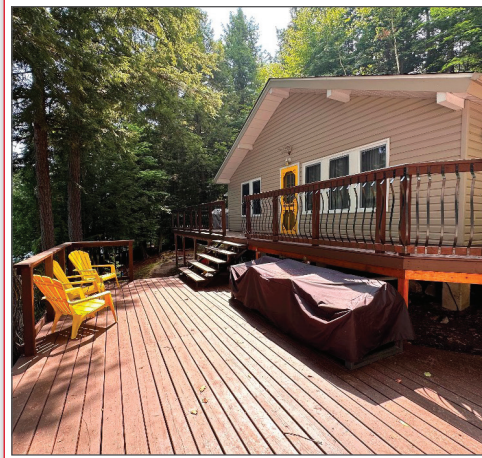


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# Apple Tree Identification Project brings on student researchers

by **VIVIAN COLLINGS**  
*Times Staff*

U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research and the Apple Tree Identification Project (ATIP) have recently received funding to take on two student researchers to help assess whether apple trees in Haliburton County can be used to help food security and economic growth.

Carmen Galea grew up in Haliburton County and is now studying urban environmental sustainability and geography at Toronto Metropolitan University.

She'll be working alongside professors to "identify tree locations, preparing an inventory and map of apple trees and researching environmental conditions where trees are growing."

Additionally, Wesley Ford will be conducting research for the Apple Tree Economic Cost Benefit Analysis.

"These U-Links community-based research projects aim to assess the potential for establishing a local apple industry in Haliburton County, with a focus on enhancing food security, stimulating economic growth, and promoting sustainable tourism," said a U-Links press release.

Members of ATIP recently met with all four municipalities to introduce the project, and all passed resolutions in support of their outlined four-step program.

"When we started this project, people said



There is an initiative underway in Haliburton County to assess the potential for establishing a local apple industry. With a focus on sustainable tourism, economic growth, and food security, the project will roll out over the autumn season across the county. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

to us, 'There are no apples in Haliburton,' and we thought maybe there weren't. We had a plan to find 10 apple locations in Haliburton County, and since then we've found over 120," said Luba Cargill, member

of ATIP, during an Algonquin Highlands council meeting. "Apples have a long history in Haliburton County. They have not been prioritized, and they have not been taken care of over the last few years, and we're trying to change that."

Cargill said maps show that Haliburton County is north of the boundary where apples will grow, yet they continue to grow in the area.

"These trees have often been neglected, but they continue to survive and produce apples," Cargill said, and ATIP hopes to utilize this natural resource to benefit the community.

"The purpose of this study is to increase resident awareness of existing apple trees, highlight the need for care and maintenance of existing trees, renew an existing food resource, increase availability of locally grown and produced products, increase food security, help reduce environmental cost of food transportation from outside the county, provide data for Haliburton GIS maps to add an apple tree layer, provide Haliburton Master Gardeners with information for further research, provide additional products for the Farmers' Markets, and provide increase apple supply for SIRCH's Applesauce Project, and provide additional tourism opportunities for the apple blossom tour in May," she said.

Step one of the program will be tree identification.

Step two will be carrying out the care and maintenance of trees.

Step three will focus on increasing apple supply by planting more trees.

Finally, step four will be to focus on Haliburton County's apple tree industry and how it can be used to support not-for-profit organizations.

For more information on the ATIP, visit [www.ulinks.ca](http://www.ulinks.ca).

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	7	1	6					
9	6		3		8			
	3				2		8	9
	9	6			3	4	7	1
	1						3	
					4			7
			2	9		8		4
				1				

Level: Advanced

**Here's How It Works:**  
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

*Answers on page 13*

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Purpose of the Annual General Meeting: To receive the report of the Board of Directors, to receive the report of the Auditors & Financial Statements, the appointment of the Auditors, to conduct the election of the Directors and any other business as may properly come before the meeting.

The 27th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation will be held in-person. Based on capacity and the current building protocols, the meeting could change to an online meeting at short notice. RSVP is required to be notified of this change. Only members will have the opportunity to vote.

For further information and to RSVP, please contact the HHHS Foundation at 705-457-1580 or [foundation@hhhs.ca](mailto:foundation@hhhs.ca)

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## Wild water

The Gull River Open Canoe Slalom Race took place over the weekend, where dozens of competitors put their skills to the test at the Minden Whitewater Preserve. Weather conditions were perfect for the competitors who came to Minden to compete in this year's race, battling the rapids at the preserve. Pictured below, Emily Morgan and Keith Watson practice their skills before competition gets underway at the Minden Whitewater Preserve on Saturday morning. /ADAM FRISK special to the Times



A competitor takes in a practice round ahead of the the Gull River Open Canoe Slalom Race at the Minden Whitewater Preserve on Saturday morning.

# Dorset Tower advanced ticketing for fall colour weekends

For the second year, advanced tickets will be required to visit the Dorset Tower during fall colour weekends (including Thanksgiving Monday) from Sept. 23 to Oct 15. On weekdays (excluding Thanksgiving Monday) tickets will be sold on a first come/first served basis and can be purchased at the gate on arrival.

"The Tower is one of the premier destinations to view fall colours in the province," says Chris Card, Manager of Parks, Rec and Trails. "It is growing in popularity and attendance each year. Recent years have seen a drastic increase in attendance, and it has become common for visitors to wait up to two hours to enter the site and another hour to get onto the tower structure. This has created traffic congestion on Highway 35 north and south of the village of Dorset."

In order for visitors to have the most enjoyable experience, the Township has implemented the advanced ticket system. It allows visitors to choose the time they arrive in advance. The implementation of the system has proven to reduce wait times and traffic congestion during a time of year when thou-

sands of people visit the Tower. Advanced tickets will only be available and required on weekends and the Thanksgiving holiday Monday, which are the most popular days. Season pass holders will also be able to book their chosen time for no additional fee using the online system.

Weekdays will continue to operate on a first come first served basis, with entrance passes available at the gate. Visitors can purchase tickets online at [ahtrails.ca](http://ahtrails.ca) starting at 9 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 11. Although ticket holders must arrive during their chosen timeframe, there will be no limit as to how long they can stay.

Submitted

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

4	7	1	6	2	9	3	5	8
3	8	2	4	5	1	7	9	6
9	6	5	3	7	8	1	4	2
5	3	7	1	4	2	6	8	9
2	9	6	5	8	3	4	7	1
8	1	4	9	6	7	2	3	5
1	2	9	8	3	4	5	6	7
7	5	3	2	9	6	8	1	4
6	4	8	7	1	5	9	2	3





**HHHSFoundation** is currently recruiting for new members for its volunteer Board of Directors, and is particularly interested in hearing from people with experience in any of the following areas:

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# Home Games



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Saturday, September 16 @ 4:00 p.m.

## Upcoming Home Games



September 23  
4:00 p.m.



September 30  
4:00 p.m.

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As the leaves begin to change, the Minden Hills Cultural Centre has launched a full lineup of activities and events for everyone in the community. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

## Programs for Sept. and Oct. at the MHCC

The Minden Hills Museum & Heritage Village and Nature’s Place remain open and continue to provide drop-in programming activities and events until the Thanksgiving Weekend. We are open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is by donation. Pre-registration is not required for any of the programs and events.

**Heritage, Nature, and Craft Programs**

- **Butter in a Jar:** Join us for the final butter making of the season on Sept. 13 from 3 to 4 p.m. Be prepared to get your hands dirty!
- **Planting 101:** Come join us in the heritage garden to learn gardening basics, including planting the seeds and providing care. Available Sept. 16 from 11 am to 12 pm.
- **Bracelet Making:** Visit us to create a cool friendship bracelet and learn about the origin and tradition of bracelet making. Available Sept. 16 from 2 to 3 p.m.
- **Experiments with nature, Volcanoes:** What are igneous rocks? How are they formed? Come see our rock collections and observe a volcanic eruption simulation! You can also conduct your own volcanic experiment. Available Oct. 7 at 2 p.m.
- **A series of instructor-led crafts activities** that let you get creative and show off your craft skills. Bring home your prized piece or give it to your friend. Families are welcome. All supplies are provided. Rock Painting is Sept. 6, 27, Build a Beaver is Sept. 14, and Paper Plate Birds is Sept. 22. All activities take place from 3 to 4 p.m.
- **Move & Groove:** Join us to learn some super fun dance moves. Move your body and show us what you got! Takes place on Sept. 23 from 11 a.m. to noon.
- **New Programs in Fall**
- **Leaf art:** Try out different types of art with the fallen leaves! Make leaf rubbings or experiment with ephemeral nature art (artwork that does not last long). Available Sept.20 and Oct. 4 from 3 to 4 p.m.
- **A Fall Garden:** What does a typical fall

garden look like? Come visit our village garden and check out our harvest this year! Available on Sept. 23 from 3 to 4 p.m. and Oct. 6 from 11 a.m. to noon and 3 to 4 p.m.

- **Cardboard Loom:** Are you interested in learning the basics of loom weaving? Why not start on a plain piece of cardboard? Come join us and give it a try. All levels are welcome. Available on Sept. 21 and Oct. 5 from 3 to 4 p.m.
- **Mid-Autumn Festival Crafts:** This program features Chinese paper cutting, craft paper lantern and other hands-on activities. Join us and learn about the origin and traditions of this festival. Available Sept. 23 at 2 p.m.

**Special Events**

- **Bookapalooza 2023** is an annual celebration of storytelling for all ages and abilities. Join us at the Readers & Writers Expo on Saturday, Sept. 16 at the Minden Curling Club, 50 Prentice Street from 10 am to 4 pm for live presentations and 50+ exhibitors.
- **Documentary screening** with HCPL: MHCC, HCPL (Haliburton County Public Library) are co-hosting a community screening of *We Were Children* (2012). This film reveals the trauma and impact caused by the residential school system. The screening is on Sept. 28 at 5 p.m. at the Cultural Centre (Free admission, no pre-registration, 16+).

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Activities: We would like to invite you to reflect on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. MHCC will be sharing information and resources, allowing you to participate in different activities in the region. A live broadcast of events on Parliament Hill will begin on the morning of Sept. 30.

Visit our township’s social media for more info.: [www.facebook.com/Township.Minden.Hills](http://www.facebook.com/Township.Minden.Hills)

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Committee of Adjustment - Notice of Public Hearing  
Application For Minor Variance

Take Notice that the Committee of Adjustment of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a Public Hearing on:

DATE: Monday, September 25, 2023  
TIME: 9:30 AM  
LOCATION: This will be a hybrid meeting. Members of the public may attend either in person or electronically via Zoom. Details are provided below.

To Attend in Person:  
Location: Members of the Public wishing to watch the meeting in person can do so by attending the Township Council Chambers, located at 7 Milne Street, Minden.

To Participate: Members of the public wishing to participate and make comment/speak at the public meeting must pre-register by emailing [dsisson@mindenhills.ca](mailto:dsisson@mindenhills.ca) by Friday September 22nd, 2023 before 4:00 PM or by registering the morning of the meeting before 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers.

To Attend Electronically:  
To Watch: Members of the Public wishing to watch the meeting can do so by joining the Meeting Live Stream Link: [https://youtube.com/live/Tx0J\\_-vgSLQ?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/Tx0J_-vgSLQ?feature=share)

The live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while the meeting is in session.

To Participate: Members of the public wishing to participate and make comment/speak at the public meeting must pre-register by emailing [dsisson@mindenhills.ca](mailto:dsisson@mindenhills.ca) by Friday September 22nd, 2023 before 4:00 PM or by attending electronically and registering the morning of the meeting before 9:00 AM. Once registered, participants will automatically be placed into a holding room and brought into the meeting as permitted by the Chair.

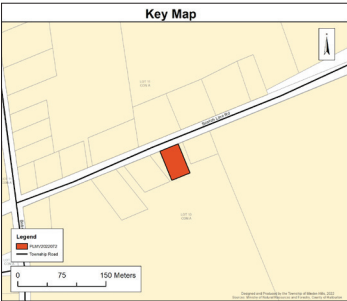
To attend the Zoom virtual meeting via Web, type <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85825215209?pwd=MnNQK3Zxb3hYUjNzKzRxWmt6SDQ4UT09> into your browser or attend by dialing the number below:  
Telephone: 1-647-374-4685 or 1-647-558-0588  
Webinar ID: 858 2521 5209  
Passcode: 225428

Participants registering either virtually or in person after 9:00 AM will not be permitted into the public hearing.

The purpose of the Public Meeting will be to consider Minor Variance Applications PLMV2022072, PLMV2023039 and the proposed minor variances to the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law pursuant to Section 45 of the Planning Act as shown below:

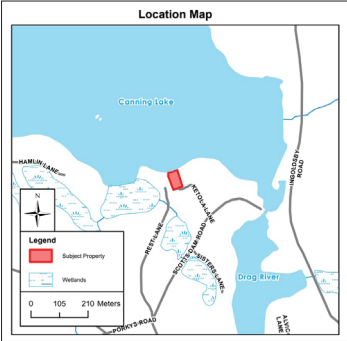
PLMV2022072 - Part Lot 10, Concession A, Geographic Township of Minden; located on Scotch Line Road East (See Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: The purpose of the application is to provide relief from the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law 06-10, as amended, to permit the construction of a 131 square metre two-storey dwelling with a 43 square metre attached deck. The effect of the application would be to permit a residential use within the Hazard Land (HZ) Zone, where the use is otherwise not permitted; a reduced eastern interior side lot line setback of 12.2 metres for the dwelling and a reduced western interior side lot line setback of 11.6 metres for the dwelling and 8.5 metres for the attached deck, where interior side lot line setbacks of 15 metres are otherwise required.



PLMV2023039 - Part Lot 15, Concession 14, Geographic Township of Snowdon; located at 1027 Ketola Lane (See Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: The purpose of the application is to provide relief from the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law 06-10, as amended, to permit the demolition of an existing 23.69 square metre seasonal storage shed with a height of 2.44 metres located on the northeast corner of the lot. The existing shed is 0 metres from the shoreline and 0 metres from the eastern lot line. The effect of the application would be to permit the construction of a new seasonal storage shed with the same ground floor area and building height to be set back 2.44 metres (8 feet) from the shoreline and eastern lot line, where otherwise a water setback of 15 metres and a lot line setback of 4.5 metres are required.



Additional Information regarding these applications will be available online. Links to meeting agendas and full reports can be found on our Minden Hills Civic Web. A copy of the complete applications will be available for public inspection at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department by appointment only.

Input on the above noted applications is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Township. To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision, please contact the undersigned or e-mail [adougherty@mindenhills.ca](mailto:adougherty@mindenhills.ca).

Any person or agency who is of the opinion that holding the hearing as a hybrid/combined in-person and electronic hearing is likely to cause them significant prejudice, may make a submission to the undersigned, and if the Committee is satisfied that holding the hearing as hybrid is likely to cause the party significant prejudice then the hearing will be re-scheduled as an oral hearing only. If a person or agency does not make a submission to the Secretary-Treasurer prior to the hearing, and the person or agency does not participate in the hearing in accordance with this Notice, then the Committee may proceed without the party's participation and the party will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceeding.

Accessibility: The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the undersigned.

Privacy Disclosure: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

For more information about this matter contact at [adougherty@mindenhills.ca](mailto:adougherty@mindenhills.ca) or 705-286-1260 ext. 506

Amanda Dougherty  
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment  
P.O. Box 359, 7 Milne Street, Minden ON, K0M 2K0

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Family Community Day -  
Kinark Outdoor Centre

Date: Sept. 16, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
(rain date Sept. 17)  
Where: 1766 Queens Line Road, Minden  
The Kinark Outdoor Centre is opening its doors to showcase the range of programming it has for children and youth with complex needs and their families. This event is open to all families and community members. Activities include outdoor rock wall, high ropes, archery, a BBQ lunch, canoeing, pedal boating, tie dying, and hiking. No Cost! Participants are asked to bring closed toed shoes and a water bottle. Pre-registration is required for this event. Contact Elisha Weiss at [elisha.weiss@kinark.on.ca](mailto:elisha.weiss@kinark.on.ca) or 705-320-0045.

Coboconk Legion Yard and Craft Sale

When: Sept. 16, 9am - 4pm  
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 35 & 118  
Join us at the Coboconk Legion for a yard and craft sale. BBQ hot dog and hamburger lunch will be available. Vendors can sign up by emailing [info@coboconklezion.ca](mailto:info@coboconklezion.ca) or calling 705-454-8127. Please visit [www.coboconklezion.ca](http://www.coboconklezion.ca) for more information.

Pregnancy Care & Family Support  
Centre Fall Fundraiser

When: Sept. 16, 7 p.m.  
Where: Lakeside Church, 9 Park St., Haliburton  
Annual Fall Fundraiser for the Pregnancy Care & Family Support Centre with Rhythm and Grace (the Duketows from Lakefield). Free admission. An offering will be taken. Receipts will be mailed. For more information please call 705-457-4673

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On behalf of my family, I would like to express our gratitude and thanks to everyone who visited Sandra in the hospital, and attended her celebration of life. We would also like to thank everyone who offered their support, brought food, and sent their prayers.

It is comforting to know the memory of Sandra, her humour, and caring personality will be kept alive by all those who knew her.


Mike Legge, Melanie, and Terri



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**Patricia Doris Walton (nee Thompson)**

Born June 26th, 1935

Passed away peacefully at Ross Memorial Hospital on Tuesday August 29th, 2023 at the age of 88.

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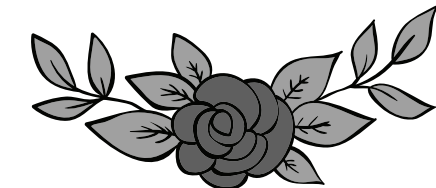
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# The Times

Tuesday,  
September 8,  
1998.

Number 1853

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## Classes resume today

### Threat of job action looms over high school

It is expected to be classes as usual in all public schools throughout Haliburton County and the Trillium Lakelands School Board area today. Secondary school teachers and the board have yet to reach an agreement, but the lack of a contract, for the moment, does not appear to be blocking the resumption of classes as usual.

Staffing and the teacher workload are two of the main issues slowing negotiations between secondary school teachers and the Trillium Lakelands District School Board. Although teachers are back in the classrooms, they will meet later in the week to consider further possible action.

Both sides have been meeting regularly in an attempt to hammer out a collective agreement between the board and the new Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation District 15. But the issue of teacher workload continues to be a contentious point. Last week the board told the OSSTF negotiating team that it was adding an additional 22 minutes, on average, per day, of instruction time.

According to the OSSTF, the average additional time will mean teachers will be in front of classes all four periods in each day. This, according to the union, cuts down on preparation time and does not allow students to have extra tutoring during spare periods. "The board has decided to impose conditions which will severely change the learning conditions of high school students in the Trillium Lakelands District School Board," said Peter Carroll, president of the district 15 teacher bargaining unit. "That sort of thing is unacceptable to us."

Carroll is also frustrated with the progress of the talks. "Negotiations have been progressing very slowly. We have not really accomplished any of the major issues," he said.

School Board Chair Cheryl Murdoch feels that although the process is tedious, the board is dedicated to the negotiations. "We are committed to working at this," said Murdoch. "We've got to get all of the pieces to fit."

According to Peter Carroll, all secondary school teachers will report for classes on September 8, however the OSSTF district 15 members will be meeting throughout the week to discuss the options available to them. The OSSTF has been in a legal strike position since mid-August.

As well, the board and the union representatives have scheduled three additional negotiation dates to be held in Haliburton County in September to attempt to resolve the dispute.



### Final touches

Minden's first mural is all but complete. Artist John Lennard has been taking advantage of the ideal early fall weather to spend extra time adding the fine detail to the logging scenes. He is expected to finish this week. Work will start on the second community mural shortly. (For details about Minden's next mural, see page 4.)



With ranks of Canadian flags, members of the colour party lead the Kinmount Fall Fair parade down the community's main street. The fair drew thousands of people to the annual Labour day weekend event. For more photos of Saturday's parade see page 16.

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